

W.S.  
4-26-04



<solarcosmos@prontomail.com>

04/26/2004 03:54 PM

Please respond to solarcosmos

To: <jackie.henderson@ci.alexandria.va.us>

cc:

Subject: City of Alexandria Website Contact Us - EMail for Jackie M. Henderson (jackie.henderson@ci.alexandria.va.us)



**Time: [Mon Apr 26, 2004 15:54:26] IP Address: [12.77.36.94]**

**Response requested:**

**First Name:** Julie

**Last Name:** Crenshaw

**Street Address:** 816 Queen Street

**City:** Alexandria

**State:** Virginia

**Zip:** 22314

**Phone:** 703.549.2630

**Email Address:** solarcosmos@prontomail.com

**Comments:** Dear Jackie Henderson - I understand the council will meet about the \$300,000 that the TSWC has requested in the 2004-2005 budget this evening. Please see that they get this email. I also sent it to their email box. Thanks sincerely, Julie

Hello,

I encourage the Council to provide the requested \$300,000 for the Center that the Tenants' and Workers' Support Committee has purchased. The TSWC has proven to improve the neighborhood of Arlandria and the quality of life for the persons who live there and who come to the TSWC for assistance.

Given that the TSWC has been outgoing to acquire the building on Mt. Vernon Avenue and have long-term plans to continue to serve the citizens in the immediate area in a way that is beneficial for the immigrant and minority populations and to the City of Alexandria without being a burden to the city, why not fund a portion of the Center's needs as a successful investment of dollars in grant form.

It has been the practice of the City when budget time comes around for many helping organizations and groups to request monies from

the City. Some have actually become programs supported by the City each year and others have asked for one-time or occasional grants. It is not the business of the City to be a lending institution. The TSWC has not asked for a loan. They have asked for a grant of \$300,000 as the City's part investing in success that the TSWC has already proven over the past years.

Loans are encumbering. Grants are not. Therefore do not encumber whether literally or figuratively as the appearance on future paperwork and documentation that the TSWC will do would show an encumbrance rather than show a grant which appears as faith that the TSWC are worthy and successful. Indentured servants and their families were placed under encumbrances for periods of time. The City should shy far from anything that resembles such a practice even though it was helpful to those who sold themselves for their children or grandchildren to be free agents someday.

TSWC seems to be adding to the community of Arlandria rather than becoming a year-to-year gimme a handout that the City has to continue to help find the stairway. A \$300,000 grant for their request is appropriate and something that could also encourage others to be more motivated.

Sincerely,  
Julie Crenshaw  
26 April 2004